

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P. O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

**ORIGINAL****PATENT APPLICATION**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10992482-1

**IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s): Bin ZHANG et al.

Confirmation No.: 3131

Application No.: 09/684,488

Examiner: M. G. Hamilton

Filing Date: 10/04/2000

Group Art Unit: 2135

Title: AGGREGATED CLUSTERING METHOD AND SYSTEM

**Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) 37 CFR 1.114**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under CFR 1.114 of the above-identified applicalton.

**NOTE:** 37 CFR 1.114 is effective on May 20, 2000. If the above- application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under CFR 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**Submission under 37 CFR 1.114**

( ) Previously submitted:

- ( ) Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ( ) Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

(X) Enclosed:

- (X) Amendment/Reply
- ( ) Affidavit(s)/Declarations(s)
- ( ) Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Miscellaneous**

- ( ) Suspension of action is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months.  
The fee for this Suspension is (37 CFR 1.17(i)) \$130.00
- ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_